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Pentagon Weekly Wrap-up

In The News This Week:

Oct. 27, 2006

- **Secretary Rumsfeld: “No One Can Predict The Future.”**
“You’re looking for some sort of a guillotine to come flowing down if some date isn’t met. That is not what this is about. This is complicated stuff. It’s difficult. We’re looking out into the future. No one can predict the future with absolute certainty. So you ought to just back off, take a look at it, relax, understand that it’s complicated, it’s difficult, that honorable people are working on these things together; there isn’t any daylight between them. They will be discussing this and discussing that; they may have a change here or a change there, but it will get worked out.” (more [here](#).)
- **General George W. Casey Jr.: “The Iraqi Security Forces Are In The Fight.”**
GEN. CASEY: “During the battle of Fallujah, we had a handful of battalions in the Iraqi army, and they operated in support of us. Today, six of the 10 Iraqi divisions are in the lead, 30 of the 36 Iraqi brigades are in the lead, almost 90 of the 112 Iraqi battalions are in the lead, and we operate in support of them. ... The Iraqi Security Forces are in the fight, and in Ramadan alone, they have lost over 300 martyrs in defense of their country.” Read the full transcript of Tuesday’s briefing with Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad [here](#).
- **Chairman Pete Pace: “This Is An Enemy That Has ... A Hundred-Year Plan.”**
“This is a long, long fight. This is an enemy that has told us they have a hundred-year plan. They put it on their website. They’ve told us they want to go and establish a caliphate from Spain to Indonesia, and from there they want to attack the rest of the free world. It’s not me saying that, it’s them saying that. We were in this war, arguably, in 1979. We understood we were in a war on 11 September of 2001. We’re in this war primarily right now in Iraq and in Afghanistan.” (more [here](#).)

Quote of the Week:

“The military is continuing to adapt and to adjust as required. Yes, there are difficulties and problems, to be sure. ... It will require more work. It will mean giving our troops and the Iraqi people the time to get the job done.” – Secretary Rumsfeld, at Thursday’s press briefing.

In Case You Missed It:

- This week’s [Nature of the Enemy](#).
- This week’s [Iraq Update](#).
- This week’s [Heroes in the War on Terror](#).
- Special [Five-Year Report](#) on the progress in Afghanistan.

— OSD Writers Group